

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

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PATRONS CELEBRATE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND

Forty patrons joined the staff of the State Library's Talking Book Center in Anchorage on Tuesday, March 22 to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Patrons enjoyed cake and punch and viewed a display of old and new playback equipment used in the program, including a red record player, a mustard yellow cassette tape player, and a charcoal gray digital talking book machine. Staff handed out flash drives imprinted with the Talking Book Center logo to patrons who want to download books on their computers, then play the books on their digital talking book machine.

Richard Svobodny, a patron of the program since he was in third grade and a deputy attorney with the Alaska Dept. of Law's Criminal Division, talked about the impact of this program on his life. He described how audiobooks opened his mind and took him places he never thought he would go both personally and professionally. Leon Hickok, a retired science teacher from the Anchorage School District, told how a reading teacher at Dimond High School tested him, determined that he was severely dyslexic, and urged Leon to get audiobooks through the Talking Book Center. Leon choked up as he stated that prior to starting service with this program, he had read three books for pleasure by the time he was fifty, but currently reads 100 audiobooks a year supplied by the Talking Book Center. Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner Michael Hanley stepped in from another meeting and listened to the remarks made by Richard and Leon.

On March 3, 1931, Congress passed the Pratt-Smoot Act, which created the National Library Service as a division of the Library of Congress. This federal-state partnership brings books on audio to Americans whose visual or physical disabilities prevent them from reading standard print. The National Library Service supplies the audiobooks and playback equipment and the state libraries across the country provide staff and space for the regional library that serves patrons in their state. In 1972, the Alaska State Library began operating its library for the blind and physically handicapped in Juneau as Alaska's regional library. This program was subsequently moved to Anchorage and was renamed as the Alaska State Library Talking Book Center.

Look below for a couple of birthday party pictures.



EED Commissioner Mike Hanley celebrates at the birthday party. Talking Books in the background.



Formats of Talking Books: red record player, a mustard yellow cassette tape player with green tape, and more.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON LIBRARIES

We are happy to report that new appointments have been made to the [Governor's Advisory Council on Libraries](#). Two members have been reappointed: they are Aldean Kilbourn and Page Brannon. David Ongley is the newly appointed member.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Libraries advises the State Library administration on the federal Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) 5-year plan, which includes development and evaluation of library services in Alaska. In the next 12-18 months the State Library and the Governor's Council on Libraries will complete the evaluation of the [current 5-year plan which expires in 2012](#), and will author a new plan for 2013-2017.

Congratulations and thanks to Aldean, Page and David. We appreciate your interest in serving and look forward to working with you and with the rest of the members in the coming years.

COLLECTION CARE, PRESERVATION & GRANTS WORKSHOP

The Alaska State Historical Records Advisory Board (ASHRAB) presents a preconference workshop at the Alaska Native Libraries, Archives & Museums Summit (ANLAMS) on April 27, 2011. In the morning, learn about archival collection care and preservation and in the afternoon, learn about environmental factors, grant writing, and preservation surveys. Presenters include Dean Dawson and Larry Hibpshman of the Alaska State Archives; Zach Jones of the Sealaska Heritage Institute and the University of Alaska Southeast; Bridget Burke of the University of Alaska Fairbanks; and Jo Antonson of the Alaska Office of History and Archaeology.

All Anchorage ARMA members are invited to attend free of charge. Travel and accommodation scholarships are available for ANLAMS attendees who wish to arrive one day early to attend this training. The scholarships will cover one night lodging and one day of per diem (\$60/day). Per diem reimbursement checks will be mailed after receipt of Preservation Survey (see below). Lodging will be covered in advance. There will be 10 awards available for attendees that meet the following requirements:

- * Serve in a facility with archival collections (e.g., village, city government)
- * Participate in the full day of training sessions
- * Agree to submit a Preservation Survey of your facility within a month following the training to Alaska State Archivist Dean Dawson.

Registration and scholarship requests may be emailed to Dean Dawson at dean.dawson@alaska.gov. You can also contact Dean with any questions.

For more information about ANLAMS: Northern Light: Saving Our Stories, including other preconference opportunities, see <http://www.library.state.ak.us/dev/anlams.html>.

SAVE THE DAY FOR SNAPSHOT: ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF ALASKAN LIBRARIES.

Based on New Jersey's wildly successful program, the Alaska Library Association and others have decided to hold a library snapshot day of our own! The goal is for libraries all around Alaska to take one day for taking pictures, both photographic and statistical, of what we do for our communities. These are then gathered in one location as a resource for both statewide and local marketing efforts. Plus, it's just a lot of fun! The statewide group is focusing on Thursday, April 28th, but we realize that no one day works for every library, so each participating library can choose one day from April 23rd through May 1st.

See <http://snapshot.pbworks.com/> for more information and resources, including images that you can use at your library and a link to the American Library Association's primer, which includes examples from around the country.

We're still working on materials, so check back to the website often. For more information or to help develop this year's event, contact a committee member. You can find a list at <http://snapshot.pbworks.com/w/page/37551067/Snapshot-Alaska-Committee-Members>.

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